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### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office  
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Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. The publications are listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, Please charge the \$180.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2135. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2135. An additional copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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